



# Tracing Convicts



## UK & Ireland *(before they came)*

- Ancestry – [ancestry.com.au](http://ancestry.com.au) *(costs)*
- Archive Wales – [archives.wales](http://archives.wales)
- Assize Court Records – [familysearch.org/wiki/en/Assize\\_Court\\_Records](http://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Assize_Court_Records)
- Bedfordshire Gaol Register – <http://apps.bedford.gov.uk/grd/>
- Convict hulks – [mhns.wa.gov.au/stories/general/convict-hulks/](http://mhns.wa.gov.au/stories/general/convict-hulks/)  
List of British prison hulks – [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_British\\_prison\\_hulks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_British_prison_hulks)  
Prison Ship (Hulk) Registers – [bit.ly/fmpHulks](http://bit.ly/fmpHulks)
- Down County Museum, Prisoners – [bit.ly/DownConvicts](http://bit.ly/DownConvicts)
- Dumfries Jail Books – [info.dumgal.gov.uk/HistoricalIndexes/Home/IndexDescription/5](http://info.dumgal.gov.uk/HistoricalIndexes/Home/IndexDescription/5)
- Find My Past – [findmypast.com](http://findmypast.com) *(costs)*
- Index of legal terms and offences – [bit.ly/NRSlegalterms](http://bit.ly/NRSlegalterms)
- Inveraray Jail – [www.inverarayjail.co.uk/our-history/](http://www.inverarayjail.co.uk/our-history/)
- Ireland-Australia transportation database – [bit.ly/IrishTransported](http://bit.ly/IrishTransported)
- Irish Chief Secretary's Office Registered Papers – [csorp.nationalarchives.ie](http://csorp.nationalarchives.ie)
- Kent Quarter Sessions Index – [bit.ly/FSKentQS](http://bit.ly/FSKentQS)
- Looking for prisoner records – [bit.ly/TNAprisoners](http://bit.ly/TNAprisoners)
- Newspapers – see the eResources of your state library (get state library card): 19<sup>th</sup> Century British Library Newspapers, British Newspapers 1600-1900, Gale News Vault, Times Digital Archive, also Find My Past
- Old Bailey Online – [www.oldbaileyonline.org](http://www.oldbaileyonline.org)
- Scottish 'Crime & Criminals' guide – [bit.ly/NRScrime](http://bit.ly/NRScrime)
- Scottish Prison Register Search – [scottishindexes.com/learningprison.aspx](http://scottishindexes.com/learningprison.aspx)
- The National Archives (UK) (London) – [nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://nationalarchives.gov.uk)
  - The National Archives (UK) catalogue search – [discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk)
  - The National Archives (UK) Criminal transportation – [bit.ly/TNACrimTransp](http://bit.ly/TNACrimTransp)
  - The National Archives (UK) Surgeons at Sea – [nationalarchives.gov.uk/surgeonsatsea/](http://nationalarchives.gov.uk/surgeonsatsea/)
  - The National Archives (UK) Transportation to Australia – [bit.ly/TNATransportation](http://bit.ly/TNATransportation)
- Wales' Court of Great Sessions ('Crime and Punishment') – [crimeandpunishment.library.wales](http://crimeandpunishment.library.wales)

## New South Wales

- New South Wales State Archives & Records – [mhns.wa.gov.au](http://mhns.wa.gov.au)
  - Colonial Secretary's Correspondence – [mhns.wa.gov.au/archive/subjects/colonial-secretary/](http://mhns.wa.gov.au/archive/subjects/colonial-secretary/)
  - Convict records – [mhns.wa.gov.au/archive/subjects/convicts/](http://mhns.wa.gov.au/archive/subjects/convicts/)
- Ancestry.com.au – [www.ancestry.com.au/search/categories/auconvicts/](http://www.ancestry.com.au/search/categories/auconvicts/) *(costs)*
- Australian Royalty – [australianroyalty.net.au/tree/purnellmccord.ged](http://australianroyalty.net.au/tree/purnellmccord.ged)
- Female Factory Parramatta – [parragirls.org.au](http://parragirls.org.au)
- findmypast.com.au convict records – [findmypast.com.au](http://findmypast.com.au)
- First Fleet Online – [firstfleet.uow.edu.au/index.html](http://firstfleet.uow.edu.au/index.html)
- Free Settler or Felon? – [freesettlerorfelon.com](http://freesettlerorfelon.com)
- Hyde Park Barracks Museum – [mhns.wa.gov.au/tags/hyde-park-barracks/](http://mhns.wa.gov.au/tags/hyde-park-barracks/)
- Irish convicts to NSW – [members.pcug.org.au/~ppmay/](http://members.pcug.org.au/~ppmay/)
- NSW Transcription agents who visit NSW State Archives & Records *(for those unable to visit themselves)*
  - Marilyn Rowan – [www.transcriptions.com.au](http://www.transcriptions.com.au)
  - Turtle Consolidated Services – <http://home.iprimus.com.au/lturtle/>

## Moreton Bay *(Queensland – was NSW until 1859)*

- Moreton Bay convicts – [www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/archives/collection/convicts](http://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/archives/collection/convicts)
- Transcription of Moreton Bay convict records – [bit.ly/MBconvicts](http://bit.ly/MBconvicts)
- Queensland Convict Register (1824-1839) – [bit.ly/fmpQldConvicts](http://bit.ly/fmpQldConvicts) *(findmypast.com.au, costs)*

## Norfolk Island

- Prison outpost – [mhns.wa.gov.au/stories/convict-sydney/norfolk-island/](http://mhns.wa.gov.au/stories/convict-sydney/norfolk-island/)

## Port Phillip District *(Victoria – was NSW until 1851)*

- Justice, crime & law – [www.prov.vic.gov.au/explore-collection/explore-topic/justice-crime-and-law](http://www.prov.vic.gov.au/explore-collection/explore-topic/justice-crime-and-law)
- Register of Convicts – [prov.vic.gov.au/explore-collection/explore-topic/register-convicts-1842-1854](http://prov.vic.gov.au/explore-collection/explore-topic/register-convicts-1842-1854)
- Victoria Government Gazette Online Archive – [gazette.slv.vic.gov.au](http://gazette.slv.vic.gov.au)
- Westernport Settlement 1826-28 – [bit.ly/WesternPort](http://bit.ly/WesternPort)

## South Australia *(no convicts sent directly to South Australia)*

- South Australians sentenced to transportation – [bit.ly/SAconvicts](http://bit.ly/SAconvicts) (*findmypast.com.au, costs*)
- South Australian ex-convicts – <http://bit.ly/SAexConvicts> (*findmypast.com.au, costs*)

## Van Diemen's Land *(Tasmania – was NSW until 1825)*

- Convict portal – [libraries.tas.gov.au/family-history/convicts-in-van-diemens-land-now-tasmania/](http://libraries.tas.gov.au/family-history/convicts-in-van-diemens-land-now-tasmania/)
- Tasmanian Names Index – [https://talis.ent.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en\\_AU/names/](https://talis.ent.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en_AU/names/)
- Convict records & abbreviations – [bit.ly/LTconvictAbbrev](http://bit.ly/LTconvictAbbrev)
- Baptisms of Children of Convicted Women – [ancestry.com.au/search/collections/60750/](http://ancestry.com.au/search/collections/60750/)
- Convicts and the Colonial Period – [bit.ly/TasConvictHistory](http://bit.ly/TasConvictHistory)
- Female Convicts Research Group – [femaleconvicts.org.au](http://femaleconvicts.org.au)
- Orphan Schools, Tasmania – [www.orphanschool.org.au](http://www.orphanschool.org.au)
- Port Arthur history – [portarthur.org.au/history/](http://portarthur.org.au/history/)

## Western Australia *(received convicts 1850-1868)*

- Convict database – [fremantleprison.com.au/history-heritage/research/convict-database/](http://fremantleprison.com.au/history-heritage/research/convict-database/)
- Convict records of WA – [www.wa.gov.au/organisation/state-records-office-of-western-australia/convicts](http://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/state-records-office-of-western-australia/convicts)
- Convicts to Australia – [perthdps.com/convicts/](http://perthdps.com/convicts/)
- Dead Reckoning – [slwa.wa.gov.au/dead\\_reckoning/indexes\\_and\\_catalogues/a-f2/convicts](http://slwa.wa.gov.au/dead_reckoning/indexes_and_catalogues/a-f2/convicts)
- Police Gazettes – [www.slwa.wa.gov.au/explore-discover/wa-heritage/police-gazettes](http://www.slwa.wa.gov.au/explore-discover/wa-heritage/police-gazettes)

## General

- Ancestry.com.au Convict Collection – [www.ancestry.com.au/search/categories/auconvicts/](http://www.ancestry.com.au/search/categories/auconvicts/) (*costs*)
- Australian Joint Copying Project (AJCP) – [nla.gov.au/using-library/research-tools-and-resources/australian-joint-copying-project](http://nla.gov.au/using-library/research-tools-and-resources/australian-joint-copying-project)
- Biographical Database of Australia – [www.bda-online.org.au](http://www.bda-online.org.au)
- Claim a Convict – [www.hawkesbury.net.au/claimaconvict/](http://www.hawkesbury.net.au/claimaconvict/)
- Convict Transportation Registers Database – [convictrecords.com.au](http://convictrecords.com.au)
- Convict Women – [bit.ly/WhoresDamnedWhores](http://bit.ly/WhoresDamnedWhores)
- Convicts and national character – [bit.ly/ConvictsNatCharacter](http://bit.ly/ConvictsNatCharacter)
- Convicts Australia – [bit.ly/JFConvictsAustralia](http://bit.ly/JFConvictsAustralia)
- Tracing London Convicts in Britain & Australia, 1780-1925 – [www.digitalpanopticon.org](http://www.digitalpanopticon.org)
- Government & Police Gazettes – [www.findmypast.com.au](http://www.findmypast.com.au) (*costs*)
- Parkhurst Boys – [perthdps.com/convicts/park.html](http://perthdps.com/convicts/park.html)
- State Library of NSW, 'From Terra Australis to Australia' – [bit.ly/NSWSL-TerraAustralis](http://bit.ly/NSWSL-TerraAustralis)
- Trove – [trove.nla.gov.au](http://trove.nla.gov.au) (*digitised newspapers, pictures, government gazettes, books & more*)